

Washington, DC - Congresswoman Linda Sánchez joined President George W. Bush and a bipartisan group of Congressional leaders at the White House today to mark the passage of an important civil rights law.

President Bush invited Congresswoman Sánchez to the event in recognition of her role as a principal leader behind the legislation, which will renew voter protections for U.S. citizens under the landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Congresswoman Sánchez is an original co-sponsor of the “Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006,” which President Bush signed today on the South Lawn of the White House.

Earlier this month, Congress overwhelmingly passed the act by a vote of 390-33. The Senate later voted to pass the bill by a vote of 98-0.

“This is a great day for everybody who values the most fundamental American right – the right of U.S. citizens to vote,” said Congresswoman Sánchez.

As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, Congresswoman Sánchez helped lead the committee’s seven-month series of hearings and evaluation of evidence that led to the writing of the bill.

“The Voting Rights Act has protected the ability of U.S. citizens to cast safe and informed ballots since its creation in 1965,” added Congresswoman Sánchez. “Today, our country sent a strong message that we will remain a model for democracies everywhere by protecting the right of every citizen to vote.”